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## REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

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Application Number	10/617,856	/Rr	
Filing Date	July 14, 2003		
First Named Inventor	Kyoji SAITO et al.		
Group Art Unit	2142		
Examiner Name	Thong H. VU		
Attorney Docket Number	P23956		

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was flied prior to May 29,2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.						
a. Previously su i. Conside (Any uner ii. Conside iii. Other: b. Enclosed i. Amendr ii. Affidavit iii. Informa	d under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 ubmitted or the amendment(s)/reply under stered amendment(s) referred to above were the arguments in the Appeal B ment/Reply o(s)/Declaration(s) tion Disclosure Statement (IDS) t for Extension of Time	vill be entered.)	·			
Miscellaneous     a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)     b. Other:						
<ul> <li>3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.</li> <li>a. \( \subseteq \) Check in the amount of \$\frac{790.00}{290.00}\$ enclosed.</li> <li>b. \( \subseteq \) If payment in the appropriate amount is not enclosed, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees required by this paper, including the RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e), any extension of time fees (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) necessary to render the RCE timely, and any suspension fee or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. <a href="19-0089">19-0089</a></li> </ul>						
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED						
Name (Print/Type) Signature	Bruce H. Bernstein William Pieprz Reg. No. 33,63	Registration No. (ADate	ttorney/Agent)	29,027 00000064 19617856		
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION						
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as a first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Mail Stop RCE, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:						
Name (Print/Type)						
Signature		Date				